

## REMARKS

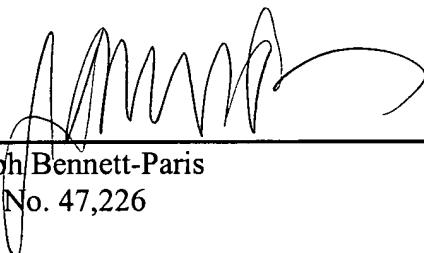
It is believed that these amendments should place this case in condition for allowance. A Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD



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Joseph Bennett-Paris  
Reg. No. 47,226

Date: February 4, 2004

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